

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 /032 R

DRAFTED BY EB/AN:JBMAGNOR:DAP

APPROVED BY EB/AN:WBCOBB

EUR/CE - B. FLATIN

CAB - ALARGAY

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P R 232118Z JUL 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BERN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, AU

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: TWA SWITCH FROM GENEVA TO ZURICH

REF: A) VIENNA 6270; B) VIENNA 6040; C) STATE 163669

1. FOR UNKNOWN REASON REF B DID NOT REACH DEPARTMENT ACTION
OFFICE UNTIL JULY 22.

2. CONCERNING PARAS 1 AND 2, REF B, DEPARTMENT SHARES
EMBASSY'S CONCERN WITH TWA DECISION TO SWITCH INTERMEDIATE
POINTS FOLLOWING ONLY ONE TRAFFIC SEASON'S EXPERIENCE
WITH GENEVA ROUTING. DEPARTMENT HAS CONTINUALLY CAUTION-
ED TWA WASHINGTON OFFICE SINCE APPROVAL PAN AM/TWA ROUTE
SWAP THAT FREQUENT SWITCHING OF INTERMEDIATES IS KNOWN
SOURCE OF INITIATION TO AUA - A FACTOR AND THE POTENTIAL
ADVERSE RAMIFICATIONS OF WHICH TWA WASHINGTON OFFICE, AT
LEAST, FULLY AWARE. ON OTHER HAND, TWA IS NEW TO AUSTRIA
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MARKET AND SOME INITIAL ADJUSTMENT MIGHT REASONABLY BE

EXPECTED BEFORE TWA GAINS EXPERIENCE AND SETTLES INTO
PREDICTABLE PATTERN OF US-AUSTRIA SERVICE.

3. FOLLOWING TRANSMISSION REF C ON JULY 11, WE SUGGESTED
TO TWA WASHINGTON OFFICE THAT VIENNA REP ZAMBELLO INFORM-

ALLY ADVISE AUA OF PLANNED SWITCH FROM GENEVA TO ZURICH
BEFORE OR SIMULTANEOUS WITH ITS HEARING OF CHANGES FROM
GOA. OFFICIAL AUSTRIAN UNHAPPINESS WITH PRESENT BILAT-
ERAL CIVAIR ARRANGEMENTS AND APPARENT AUSTRIAN INCLINATION
TO TERMINATE THESE ARRANGEMENTS ASIDE, IT APPEARS LIKELY
THAT ANY FORMAL AUSTRIAN MOVE TO DENOUNCE CIVAIR BILATERAL
WILL ORIGINATE AT THE OUTSET WITH AUA. FOR THIS
REASON, IT WOULD APPEAR PRUDENT FOR TWA TO CONTINUE NUR-
TURING CLOSE RELATIONS WITH AUA (WHICH WE UNDERSTAND
FROM TWA IT HAS BEEN LARGELY SUCCESSFUL IN DOING ALL
THINGS CONSIDERED) AND TO AVOID IF POSSIBLE, OR TO
MINIMIZE AT LEAST, ACTIONS WHICH WOULD IRRITATE AUA
UNDULY OR OTHERWISE JEOPARDIZE THOSE RELATIONS. NOTIFYING
AUA OF TWA SCHEDULE CHANGES IN ADVANCE OF ITS HEARING
ABOUT THE CHANGES FROM ITS GOVERNMENT SEEMED THE MINIMUM,
APPROPRIATE THING TO DO IN THIS CONNECTION.

4. CONCERNING PARA 3 REF B, WE RELY ON EMBASSY'S JUDGE-
MENT AS TO FORMAT TO BE USED IN INFORMING GOA OF TWA
SCHEDULE CHANGES. MARCH 20 MEMORANDUM OF CONSULTATIONS IS
UNCLEAR ON THIS POINT AND, TECHNICALLY, NOTE, LETTER OR
ORAL APPROACH WOULD FULFILL OBLIGATION. IF EMBASSY
BELIEVES WRITTEN NOTIFICATION IS PREFERRED, WE WOULD
RECOMMEND PARALLEL ORAL APPROACHES AT APPROPRIATE LEVELS
GOA TO PROVIDE BACKGROUND ON TWA DECISION TO CHANGE INTER-
MEDIATE POINT THIS WINTER. THESE APPROACHES MIGHT
INCLUDE, AT EMBASSY'S DISCRETION, REFERENCE TO TWA IN-
EXPERIENCE WITH VIENNA MARKET AND ITS DESIRE TO ESTABLISH
ECONOMIC PATTERN OF SERVICE WITHOUT UNDULY DISRUPTING AUA
PLANNING AND OPERATIONS; TO FACT THAT WINTER 1975/76 TWA
SERVICES REPRESENT SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION OF SERVICE OVER
PRESENT LEVEL; TO TWA UNDERSTANDING THAT ZURICH INTER-
MEDIATE WOULD IMPACT LESS ON AUA THAN GENEVA DURING THIN
WINTER TRAFFIC SEASON; TO FACT THAT PRESENT UNDER-
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STANDINGS LIMIT TWA TO THIRD AND FOURTH FREEDOM TRAFFIC
(INCLUDING ON-LINE STOPOVERS) AND HENCE CHOICE OF INTER-
MEDIATE HAS LITTLE OR NO EFFECT ON AUA IN ANY EVENT; AND
TO ANY OTHER POINTS EMBASSY FEELS WOULD BE HELPFUL.

5. CONCERNING PARA 4, REF B WE HAVE AGAIN DISCUSSED WITH
TWA THE DELICACY OF OUR PRESENT CIVAIR RELATIONS WITH
GOA AND THE NECESSITY THEREFORE OF APPROACHING THESE

RELATIONS IN CAUTIOUS AND COORDINATED MANNER. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRLINES, AIR ROUTES, REORGANIZATIONS, AIR SCHEDULES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE173748
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JBMAGNOR:DAP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750254-1000
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750728/aaaaazht.tel
Line Count: 116
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 VIENNA 6270, 75 VIENNA 6040, 75 STATE 163669
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 APR 2003 by Izenbel0>; APPROVED <05 NOV 2003 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR: TWA SWITCH FROM GENEVA TO ZURICH
TAGS: EAIR, AU, SZ, TWA
To: VIENNA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006